



Saint Joseph's College
Rensselaer, NY 14798

STUFF

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In this Issue

The editor bids farewell to the class of 1992



Pg. 2

Briefs

New service helps students

Yorktown, Virginia--Every year, millions of eligible students miss out on their share of the \$30 billion dollars available from state and local government aid programs, either because they don't apply or they do not know how to complete the state and federal aid applications in a manner that will insure the best chance of receiving the award.

To assist families in determining exactly how much money they are eligible in the form of state, federal and campus-based student aid programs, organizations like the College Money Tree will perform a computer analysis of a student's family financial circumstances and provide step-by-step outlines detailing what the student needs to do to be assured of qualifying for his or her share of the \$30 billion available.

Completing a short background questionnaire that asks about income, expenses etc., the information is entered into a scholarship database to match students individual characteristics. Then, steps can be taken by the student to apply for the aid.

Thank You

Special thanks to the security and safety department for their cheerful assistance in aiding the computer center during wednesday night's system failure.

Students attend research conference

by Amy Bohney

Thirty-three SJC students were "...treated like minor deities, what with the conviviality, doughnuts, intellectual stimulation, cookies, ideas, pizza, thoughts, soda, brains on display, cake, and just plain mind-body fun (as a Cartesian might put it)" at the Undergraduate Research Conference held at Butler University in Indianapolis April 10, according to Dick McGowan, professor of philosophy.

Professors McGowan, Musa Pinar (business administration), Dave Chittin (psychology, Assistant Vice President for Academic Affairs), Peter Watkins (political science), Dave Owens (economics) and Therese Blecha, C.S.J. (chemistry) were all involved with preparing and encouraging students for the conference.

Susan Chittin (core lecturer) organized a congratulating reception April 13 for the students and faculty members.

Senior Annette Carter, junior Jon Nichols, freshmen Scott Maienbrook, Wesley Winn, Greg Potts, Christie McNeely, Laura McCarthy presented core papers for the history segment.

Junior Ron Pickering and sophomore Michelle Crumm gave presentations for the political science division.

Juniors Tia Glass and Sloan Haughey delivered a speech about basketball. Sophomore Jennifer Young discussed the possibility of pre-employment polygraph tests.

A group including juniors Lisa Baciu, Haughey, Kerry Krapec and Elisa Lucas and another group including juniors Candace Hoover, Pamela Hounsom, Ron Pickering, Brian Stradtner and Susan Winandy gave a presentations in business administration.

Baciu thought the conference to be worthwhile. She said, "It gave us a chance to present our project on a more professional level and practice our public speaking."

Seniors Tanya Davis, Jennifer Huebner, juniors Pamela Lisek and Kelly Lynch gave economic presentations.

Davis said, "It made me feel like I did something worthwhile in my classes. It was a great experience. It was a good feeling to know that what I was presenting was of interest to other students."

For the literature category, first-year nursing student Marlene Govaert, sophomore Gayle Rusbasan and junior Kristin Rice contributed their work.

Senior Sarah Matusiak and Julie Nicholson presented their themes in chemistry and psychology, respectively.

Juniors Virginia Johnson and Jennifer Vargo demonstrated their interest in and work on the subject of beauty, and Jeremy Michor presented his research from core for the sociology and anthropology division of the conference.

Owens and McGowan feel the students performed very well. "There were many good topics and good presentations," said Owens.

McGowan took a few more than 10 students to the conference last year. "This year I got a few other people excited and they came through in spades, as the expression would have it," said McGowan.

SJC represented about 14.7 percent of the students at the conference this year, the second largest representation behind Butler.

What would make so many students attend such a confer-

ence that requires research and preparation? "I was interested in the quality of the presentations given by other schools," said Davis. Also, she believes that "...it gave students a lot of prestige and gave a lot of connections."

Owens encourages other students to participate in the research conference next year. He said, "The research process is exciting, and the experience is a confidence builder. Many faculty would help with research idea and suggestions...someday, perhaps we could do a national conference! This kind of scholarly activity enhances the academic environment on campus and looks great on the resume!"

According to McGowan, the students enjoyed the conference and many expressed interest in next year's event.

Davis will not be able to attend next year, but "I would encourage students in future years to attend because it would be well worth their while."

Davis felt so strongly about the program that "I think that it would be nice if St. Joe could host an undergraduate research conference in similarity to the one that Butler gave," she said.

President's dinner held; senior-of-the-year announced

by Annette Carter

The President's Senior Dinner was held Tuesday, April 14, in Halleck's ballroom. Cocktails were served at 6:00 p.m. Following that Rev. Charles Banet, C.P.P.S., gave the invocation. There was a buffet dinner for all thirty tables which had approximately six guests each. The tables were beautifully decorated with name cards for each guest.

All of the graduating seniors were also given gray coffee cups with "Class of 1992" engraved on the back.

Soon after dinner, Jim Valentine, Vice President for Development, introduced all of the special guests that were present.

Finally, David E. Owens, Vice President for Academics and Recruitment, gave an opening speech to the introduction of the new senior of the year Jennifer Herman.

Jennifer Herman, Leanne Haynes, Paula Kline, John Odum, and Brian Studebaker were all candidates for the senior of the year award. Unfortunately, only one could have the honors. However, all of them deserve special attention for their contributions to the class of 1992.

Herman was a little nervous when she gave a five minute speech as to her reaction having won the reward, but she kept her poise. She was visibly happy and honored to have been cho-

sen. She said, "I've had the best years of my life here at Saint Joseph's College. This year has been the best by far."

You made it
seniors!

Congratulations to
the Class of 1992!



Alumn lauds STUFF

Dear Mr. Editor,

Last weekend, I had the distinct pleasure of rediscovering STUFF. While attending Little 500 weekend, I ran across a copy in Halleck Center. Without really thinking about it, I tucked it into my pocket for later review on the drive home.. I expected to find the same old STUFF, so to speak. Instead, what I found was a vast improvement on the campus paper of recent memory. As a member of the class of '89, the STUFF I remembered vacillated between a pseudo-scandal rag and a Polyanna publication. The stories either dug up inappropriate dirt or presented an all too rosy view of campus life at SJC. Most importantly, it was not an effective forum for student issues, concerns and responses. The closest thing we had to an open forum was the now defunct underground newspaper, "The Ledge", which at times bordered on the obscene and ridiculous.

I was impressed with the clear, concise writing of all of the articles I read; hard news and human interest alike. But, I was most impressed

with Dear Jane and Letter to the Editor. Unfortunately, I did not get a chance to read the Dear Jane Column which precipitated the responses by Drs. Kreilkamp and Johnson. I would have to agree with Dr. Johnson that a column of this nature is important, if for no other reason than to start dialogue and bring such issues to the fore. I feel Jane should maintain her anonymity but be proactive in noting her reference materials so intelligent discussion can follow on campus, both in the classroom and in the cafeteria.

Finally, the inclusion of the letter regarding racial position of local stores was powerful. To me, both articles indicate that the student body is not only becoming more aware but more vocally responsible; both strong indicators of success. Please extend my congratulations to your staff. My only regret is that I cannot read the STUFF more often.

Sincerely,

Douglas A. Daulton
Class of 1989

Commentary

In today's time of high pressure politics we Americans are being forced to define our own personal moral outlook. While this is an old occurrence, it calls us to be forward thinkers rather than hindsight seekers. I see a problem brewing in this country and that problem is being set off by special interest groups like Project Rescue. With their activist (militant) rhetoric they are coercing the American free thinker into moral hegemony. This is being currently demonstrated in Buffalo, New York. The tactic of choice lately has been storming

police barricades and radical assaults upon women entering abortion clinics. In addition, I find the waving of a real fetus in the faces of prospective patients morally apprehensible. I am personally torn on the issue between the regulation of a woman's personal civil liberty and the question of the sanctity of human life. One thing that I am certain of is that the tactics used by this group will result in nothing but "hard feelings" and possibly violence. I wish they would use restraint. -Matthew Nowlin

Editorial

Dear Seniors,

As the days of your undergraduate careers come to a close, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate you on your accomplishments and wish you the greatest of successes for the future.

I only wish times were different for you. For many of you and other Americans, the job search is sluggish due to the wrath of a lousy economy. Years of government irresponsibility, voodoo economics, credit spending and other abuses have sent our economy into a nosedive.

As Americans, we have settled for leaders who have been completely out of touch with the working class- by working class. I'm not talking about just coal miners, but stock brokers, computer scientists and others who have to work to make a living. The job search will indicate that not too many places are hiring these days, and much of this I attribute to the people we have voted into office to make sure these problems don't occur in the first place.

One of the most important freedoms that we as Americans have is the freedom to vote. We will be given a choice in November between candidates that are out of touch and in touch, radical and conservative, realistic and idealistic. Seniors, I believe that a great deal of your vote, if you choose to exercise that freedom, will be decided by what happens this summer after you graduate. We will decide to either perpetuate an incompetent government or elect one that will work and help its people.

It is my only hope that you all are successful in your post-SJC life. Things will get better in the economy, they always do, but the best thing for you to do is to keep your head up and persevere.

Jon P. Nowlin
Editor-in-chief

STUFF

Saint Joseph's College
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STUFF, the Saint Joseph's College community newspaper, has three purposes: to inform, to entertain and to provide a forum for the exchange of any opinion, **regardless of political orientation**. Any member of the SJC community may submit story ideas or letters to the editor, either in writing or through the campus computer network. Letters running no longer than 300 words are preferred. Letters must be signed, although the writer's name may be withheld if **STUFF** editors deem such action necessary. **STUFF** is printed approximately every two weeks during the fall and winter semesters.

Everything's gone green!

Earth Day celebrated on U.S. campuses



by Karen Neustadt

(CPS) -- America's college students are turning "green" to celebrate Earth Day 1992 with festivals, seminars, concerts and vigils as they rally to support the environment, the No. 1 issue of interest among young adults.

This year, the April 22 celebration is closely linked to Earth Summit, also known as the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, a 12-day conference in Brazil slated for June 1-12 that has been widely publicized on U.S. campuses.

"Earth Day has become more like an 'Earth Week,'" said Denise Greene, a spokesperson at Earth Day USA headquarters in New Hampshire. Many activi-

ties started in March and will continue until the Summit convenes in June, she said.

"Our slogan is 'Make Every Day an Earth Day,'" said Greene. "Our goals are using less water, driving less and shopping environmentally."

Satellite broadcasts promoting the Earth Summit have appeared on many U.S. campuses, and one two-hour broadcast is scheduled for April 26, the last day of Earth Week. Another broadcast will cover the summit from Brazil.

Student environmental groups are being lobbied by the National Wildlife Federation to write letters to encourage U.S. involvement in the Summit.

On April 9, Earth Day USA

president Bruce Anderson presented over 700 petitions representing thousands of signatures to the Council on Environmental Quality in Washington, urging President Bush to attend the conference.

At the University of Iowa, Victor Arango, a member of the United Nations Association-USA, a group heavily involved in environmental education, says that Earth Day and the Earth Summit have sparked the imaginations of many students.

"We're putting signs on spots where people have worn a trail through a yard to cut corners that says, 'How Would You Like Someone To Walk on Your Wounds? Mother Earth,'" said Arango. "They'll be catchy, like

one we are posting on bus stops that says 'Thank You For Using Mass Transportation. It's Good For Me. Mother Earth.' Another one we are posting on trees, 'Touch Me. Feel Me. I Am Alive. Mother Earth,'" he said.

Other campuses are celebrating with visits from environmentalists of worldwide acclaim.

At Florida Atlantic University, Dr. Jane Goodall, whose work with chimpanzees in the wilds of Africa has placed her among the world's most prominent naturalists, hosted an April 20 slide show on chimpanzees.

Goodall, who has published five books of her famous 32-year study of primates is the creator of the longest running field study ever conducted of any group of

animals in their natural habitat.

At the University of California at Berkeley, students are kicking off Earth Week with an "Eco-Motion Parade" that will feature alternative modes of transportation. Advocates at Berkeley are also sponsoring energy clinics, where people are educated on how to conserve energy in their home.

Sterling College, a tiny school in Vermont with only 85 students, says that Earth Day has been an everyday occurrence there for years. "Turning green" is an integral part of the curriculum on their rugged northern campus.

Saint Joseph's College has no Earth Week activities planned.

Move over Young Republicans, here's something environmentally friendlier

by Jeff Schnauffer

Special CPS Correspondent

(CPS) -- The Greens, an environmental and socially conscious political movement that sprouted in Europe, is taking root on college campuses throughout the United States, attracting students with a brand of activism that emphasizes a positive outlook on the future.

As many as 150 college and university campuses in 20 states, from Virginia to Hawaii, are home to student Green chapters, according to Jason Kirkpatrick, a junior at Humboldt State University in Arcata, Calif., and a national coordinator for the Campus Green Network.

"It's the largest worldwide movement that we've seen in the last generation that has a focus on the environment and social justice," Kirkpatrick said. "Young greens exist in 20 different countries. We even have a chapter in Kenya."

The growth of the campus Greens in the United States began in the mid-1980's, shortly after the Greens of West Germany stunned their countrymen by winning a substantial number of seats in that nation's parliament.

In the United States, the Greens appeal to students through the issues they support and their philosophy of the future.

"The Greens present a positive, sustainable plan for the future," said Brian Hagemann, 28, a graduate student and member of the Green chapter at the University of Cincinnati.

Like other students, Hagemann became involved with the Greens out of a disenchantment with other mainstream groups. Many are dissatisfied with the Republican and Democratic parties. Nearly all want to become more involved in issues important to them.

Kirkpatrick, 23, said that this attitude fits in well with the philosophy of the Greens, which encourage people to take active roles in leadership.

One of the issues that attracts and involves student Greens is preservation of the environment.

At California State University, Northridge, for example, a small group of student Greens gained respect late last year with a successful effort to save the campus orange grove, one of the few, original orange groves re-

maining in the San Fernando Valley.

It's not always easy being a Green, however. Too often, people believe the group is focused only on environmental issues. "With the name 'Greens,' it's a source of confusion," Hagemann said.

In fact, the Greens are involved in a variety of other issues, particularly those that involve social justice, campaign and military reform, minority rights, gay and lesbian rights, rights for senior citizens and abortion rights. Many of these issues attract women who comprise more than 50 percent of Greens nationwide.

At the University of Cincinnati, Hagemann and his fellow Greens took aim at the impact Christopher Columbus' arrival has had on Native Americans. Working with another group, Hagemann said the greens named the campus a "Christopher Columbus Myth-Free Zone" and called "for UC to critically think about its approach to Columbus' 500th anniversary" of his exploration of the Americas.

"It's not a celebration for everyone," Hagemann said.

Lawmakers would do well to

pay attention to the messages sent by student greens, particularly in California.

Kirkpatrick said California has thousands of student Greens, a sizable chunk of the political movement, which has grown to more than 100,000 members nationwide.

If the party grows to 200,000

members by the end of the year, as some high-level Greens believe, it will surpass the American Independent Party as the third largest party in the state.

According to green Fabio Escobar, "We believe (our) values have a very large audience. We want to give those values a political voice."



Fabio Escobar, 21, stands in front of an orange grove he and fellow Greens helped save from destruction by California State University officials.



Apr. 23, 1992

STUFF

Saint Joseph's College

Future Pumas experience SJC during "Future Focus Day '92"

SJC Press Release

Perhaps the biggest questions facing today's college-bound high school seniors are, "Is this college for me? Will I get out of it what I want to become the type of person I want to be?"

Saint Joseph's College admission office last week took a unique step to try to answer that question for those students interested in attending the school.

"Future Focus Day '92" was created to "provide prospective students an opportunity

to experience a typical and actual day of college at Saint Joseph's," says the school's Director of Admissions Kate Egan Geleott.

During a day-long visit to the Rensselaer campus, prospective students were accompanied by current Saint Joseph's students to a lecture in the school's nationally acclaimed Core program. They also attended a class within their own academic area.

Says Geleott, "I strongly believe that nothing can assist a

student in making his college decision more than a campus visit with the opportunity to meet and converse with the college community."

Parents who accompanied the students were provided with an historical slide presentation of the school, as well as presentations by the school's guidance department while the soon-to-be college

freshmen were in their classes.

Students came from all across Indiana to attend to attend "Future Focus Day '92" including several from in and around the Rensselaer community.

Open discussions were also held that included both parents and students as well as admissions, financial aid and academic department members from Saint

Joseph's.

"For a first time event, the day went well," says Geleott. "I'm very pleased with all the positive responses we've gotten from both the students and their parents."

"The real purpose of the day was to help students decide if Saint Joseph's is the 'perfect' match for them...and it appears the day has served that purpose."

1992 Little 500 success, minus rainy weather

by Audra Bailey

Well, here's a review of how the big Little 500 weekend went for all of those people who want to keep a diary!

"The weather didn't really cooperate with us but everybody else did by following the safety precautions. Overall, the race went well," said Little 500 chairperson Luke Lengrich.

Yes, the weather wasn't all that great, but everybody was bound to have a great time, right?

While some of the booths sponsored by the various clubs on campus and a few businesses in town sold their goodies for profit, others didn't fare as well.

"The Psych Club had sno-cones at its booth but they didn't sell well by any means. We actually lost money. I guess nobody wanted sno-cones on a cold day," said Mary Pat Schreiber.

The race was the heart of the weekend, that's what it's all about isn't it? After 3 long hours of watching cars zoom by, a few SJC students walked away with a little prize money and a lot of pride.

Chris Fewell got 1st place with a cash prize of \$550.00 and a big trophy.

"It feels awesome to be a winner. Maybe you'll see me in Indy in a few years!" stated Chris with a gleam in his eyes.

Second place went to Ed Balas and a cash prize of \$400.00. Third place went to Jason Ostrowski and \$250.00. Tom MacVeigh and Bruce Mathew took third and fourth places, winning \$100.00 and \$50.00 respectively. Luke Lengrich held 6th place, receiving Lil' 500 T-shirts for himself and his crew.

The race was pure excitement, especially at the Seifert/Merlini corner where the bales of hay proved to provide a dangerous track. I believe that most of the gang wanted to see a 10-car pile up! But thank God that didn't happen and everybody was safe-ready for next year!

Another biggie of the weekend was the announcement of the Little 500 court in the ballroom on Saturday night. The Freshman court was made up of Tori Crockett, Amy Skaggs, and Audra

Bailey. Kim Patch, Tawnn Ray, and Shanon Foster were on the Sophomore court. Sheryl Klemme, Tia Glass, and Deann Kueper made up the Junior court. And finally, Sue Sesek, Nicole Fischer, and Julie Seigel created the Senior court.

Winners Amy Skaggs, Shanon Foster, and Sheryl Klemme were named to the Little 500 court as princesses. Little 500 Queen was Sue Sesek.

Congratulations to nominees and winners! The D.J. "Hot Mix" was hot as the celebration kept going strong until the wee hours of the morning.

To sum up the weekend of Little 500, everything went as planned-and if it didn't, who noticed?

The Student Union Board, all the campus clubs, and everybody else who helped made the 1992 Lil' 500 a successful event once again.

If only Mother Nature would have been a bit nicer to everyone here in Rensselaer it would have been perfect! So I guess that SJC students are now waiting for next year to roll around!



The roving artist pauses and poses next to a mini van during the April 11 Little 500. The roving artist was only part of the entertainment of the busy campus weekend.
Photo by Christopher Thieman



Bush unveils good news, bad news education budget

by Charles Dervarics

Special CPS Correspondent
WASHINGTON (CPS)

President Bush has unveiled a budget proposing a major restructuring of federal student aid that would increase the maximum Pell Grant but finance it in part by removing 400,000 students from the program.

The president's fiscal 1993 Education Department budget would boost Pell Grant funding by \$1.2 billion and increase the maximum grant from \$2400 to \$3700 a year for the neediest students. But the president would pay for the increase by reducing the number of Pell Grants and slashing other financial aid programs.

Bush's budget would provide no new funds for either Perkins Loans or State Student Incentive Grants and would cut college work-study funds by \$160 million, forcing colleges and universities to increase their contributions to the program. Cur-

rently, the government provides 70 percent of work-study salaries; the proposed budget would cut that amount to 50 percent.

"President Bush's fiscal year 1993 budget confirms the forth consecutive year that he is no education president," said Tajel Shah, head of the United States Student Association, a lobbying group in Washington.

"With 30 of the fifty states in budget crises and record-high tuition increases, these proposals would slash financial aid and force many students out of postsecondary education," she said.

In presenting the budget Jan. 29, Education Secretary Lamar Alexander said the plan reflected unprecedented federal support for education. Even with the restructuring, he said, the budget proposes a 17 percent increase in student aid. "The president's budget priority is education," said Alexander.

Of the \$2 billion in new money for student aid, about \$1.1 billion would come through higher subsidies for Guaranteed Student Loan programs. The Education Department said it expects a 50 percent increase in loan volume this year, and the department also would raise the loan limits on several GSL programs.

The administration also proposes to broaden eligibility for Pell Grants and GSLs to include any student who takes at least one class in postsecondary education. Alexander said this policy

would promote lifelong learning for adults who want or need additional education or job skills.

Elsewhere in the budget, the president proposed several new measures to combat loan defaults. One plan would force states to bear some of the financial costs of delinquent loans at schools with high default rates. Another proposal would delay loan disbursements for first-year students.

Bush and Alexander also called for a change in the definition of an "independent student" for purposes of re-

ceiving aid. Under the plan, students can call themselves "independent" only if they are at least 26 years of age or can show income large enough "to demonstrate self-sufficiency."

"The bottom line is that students will be hurt," said Glenn Magpantay, a New York college student and member of the USSA's board of directors.

The Bush budget now goes to the House and Senate, where lawmakers will begin work on education spending bills for the fiscal year beginning Oct. 1.

Herman named 1992 senior-of-the-year

SJC Press Release

Jennifer Herman, a political science major from New Haven, Indiana has been named the winner of the senior-of-the-year award for 1992 at Saint Joseph's College. She was selected by an Alumni Association committee on the basis of her achievements as a student and as a leader and participant in a variety of extra-curricular activities on campus.

The daughter of James and Sandra Herman and a 1988 graduate of Fort Wayne Snider High School, Herman lettered three years in volleyball at Saint Joseph's

and two years in basketball. She was all-conference both her junior and senior years in volleyball, as well as being named to the all-academic team both years.

Additionally, Herman served in the Saint Joseph's College student senate her junior and senior years as well as serving for one term as Student Association President.

Other finalists included: Paula Kline (mgt., Huntington); John Odum (mrkt., Ottawa, IL); Leanne Haynes (psych., North Richland Hills, TX); and Brian Studebaker (mgt., Gurnee, IL).

Wild Kingdom

By Anthony Rubino, Jr.

Stuff We Think When The Alarm Goes Off

"Sleeping is no mean art: for its sake one must stay awake all day" —Nietzsche

Anthony Rubino, Jr. 1991



What to tell your professor when you blow off class

1. "A distant relative died, and I had to go to the funeral." —**GOOD** (But, be sure you make up the relative, because if you use a real person and that person dies than you'll feel really bad.)

What NOT to tell your professor when you blow off class

1. "I died." —**BAD** (Not only will this create immediate suspicion, but it is very difficult to prove.)

Shorts

Softball season comes to a close

by Jason Hyde

Softball season has come to an end for the St. Joseph's College Lady Puma Softball team. Their season began, after several cancellations, with two games against Valparaiso University on March 25. The team was victorious in one of the two games, but they were defeated in the other.

Their season continued through the remainder of March and ended with two games against Bellarmine University on Tuesday, April 21. The softball team gained seven victories against Valparaiso (1), Huntington (2), Butler (2), and U.S.I. (1). The season was plagued by a number of losses though, as the Lady Pumas dropped games against North Kentucky, Indianapolis, Bellarmine, and St. Francis.

Throughout the softball season, Ernest Watson acted as head coach for the team. Assistance in coaching was provided by Rob Duckett.



Tracksters run into a stormy weekend

but individual performances of McCoy, Anthony and Matuga are a silver lining

by Norb Gray

Saint Joseph's College men's track team finished a disappointing fifth place at the Illinois Wesleyan Ecumenical Relays this past Saturday. Friday, the Lady Pumas placed sixth at the North Central College Cardinal Classic.

"I was disappointed because we came in fifth. What made it worse is

that we (throwers) had poor performances, in effect, lowering the team's score," said junior thrower Deren Wilder.

Wilder expected to finish in the top three in the shot put, ended up sixth, throwing 46'2".

Runner Aubrey McCoy continued to win as he took the tape in the 110 and 400 meter

hurdles, with times of 15.0 and 55.25 respectively. Tim Gorrell also finished first, winning the 10,000m run in 33.44.

John Anthony took second (20'4") and third (43'4/14") in the triple and long jump, respectively.

Phil Williams ran the 400m in 50 seconds, good enough for second

place and thrower Greg Gehl finished third in the shot put with a heavy 47'3".

Tracy Matuga highlighted the efforts of Lady Pumas as she finished first in the 1500 (4:46.4) and ended second in the 800 (2:20.18). Tara Fornauer finished fourth in the 100m hurdles with a 16.33 mark.

Rookies dominate 29th running of Little 500

SJC News Release -- Rookie drivers dominated the 29th running of the Little 500 go-cart race held recently on campus, as three of the top five finishers were seeing their first action in the annual right of Spring.

Both first and second places were grabbed off by first year drivers, with senior Chris Fewell (mgmt., South Bend) taking home the checkered flag, while freshman Ed Balas of Ballwin, Mo., finished about 45 seconds behind. Each driver completed 162 laps during the race's three hours.

Other drivers finishing in the money were, in order, Jason Ostrowski, third, Tom MacVeigh, fourth, and defending champion Bruce Mathew, fifth.

Fewell and his pit crew split the top prize of \$500, while others won various amounts down to the \$50 won by Mathew and his crew.

For Mathew, the head of the school's computer center, it was a day of frustration trying to defend his title. Leading after 33 laps, Mathew's cart blew a motor mount just as he was about to lap the field. The trip to the pits cost him a total of fifteen laps. He was able to make up all but four of them during the remainder of the race.

The fifth place finish was

the lowest for Mathew, the most experienced driver in the field with seven starts since his rookie season back in 1985.

Mathew says this will be his last race. Rule changes will go into effect next year to prohibit anyone with more than five starts from collecting top prize money.

The race chairman this year was Luke Lengerich, who drove to a sixth place finish.

"A great deal of work was put into this year's Little 500, making it a success once again. Without the help of the people behind the scene, Little 500 wouldn't be possible. I'd like to thank those people for their help, they're the ones who made it all possible," says Lengerich.

Drivers this year put up with cold, windy conditions that kept trackside attendance down during much of the race itself. Those that were on hand saw an excellent battle between Fewell and Balas, who both spent the late portions of the race looking over their shoulders at a hard-charging Mathew.

Fewell and Balas ended on the same lap, marking the closest finish in several years.

In addition, Fewell's victory ends a four year winning streak by drivers from Rensselaer. Each of the three drivers prior to Mathew in

1991 also were Rensselaer residents.

While the weather didn't cooperate for the second straight year, the race was accident-free, with only one car of the thirteen that started

IM Stats

A League all offense.....

name	team	avg.	pos.
Ron Fredrick	(Hard Rock)	28.0	C
Rodney gates	(Addiction)	19.9	F
Jim Hilvert	(Steady Mobbin')	20.7	F
Ron Combs	(It's Dinner)	22.0	G
Stacy Rendell	(Your Mom)	18.5	G

All defense team....

Steve Fagan
Rodney gates
Dave Jordy
Brent Dalrymple

Congratulations to.....

Your Mom-A League Champs
Riders on the Storm-B League Champs

RW Fan Club-Womens



Images from 1992 Little 500

photos by Christopher Thieman



Several exciting images of the 1992 Little 500 race were captured by Chris Thieman's camera. Left, winner Chris Fewell heads down the straightaway for his triumphant finish. Above, a pit crew works feverishly to refuel a kart while several spectators look on. Below left, Patty Glennon, followed by Brian Gallagher and Eric Mills, rounds Justin Corner. Below right, Gallagher gestures to Thieman.

Here's how
they finished...



- 1st-Chris Fewell
- 2nd- Ed Balas
- 3rd-Jason Ostrowski
- 4th-Tom MacVeigh
- 5th-Bruce Mathew
- 6th-Luke Lengerich



My Own Private Idaho Provides Entertainment Through Adolescent Rebellion, Conformity

by Jonathan Michiels

Avantgarde film director Gus Van Sant's new release, *My Own Private Idaho*, is a chic, highly stylized portrait of the conformity of youth amidst the heat of adolescent rebellion.

Keanu Reeves, *River's Edge* and *Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventure*, is consummate in his role as the decadent, eccentric and wealthy Scott Favor. Keanu Reeves puts in such an exceedingly realistic performance, that all difference between actor and role disappear. Keanu Reeves literally is the errant son of the mayor of Boise, Idaho, who leaves his comfortable surroundings for a swim in the seedy rivers of prostitution, drugs and thievery which flow through his city.

Scott Favor's father is portrayed as an inept, unfeeling being, who is incapable of sustaining an emotionally mature relationship with his son. Van Sant places Mayor Favor in a wheelchair symbolizing his lameness as a father. When Scott's father learns of his son's whereabouts, after being gone for three months, he wonders aloud chastisingly how an effeminate boy like Scott could support such tough friends as he does. The mayor has heard reports that he has been seen, "Among the company of thieveserty and drug ridden street bard, "My true father."

Bob, a fey Shakespearian hobo, holds court in a fleabag hotel where Favor and the rest of the wayward youth play and stay.

My Own Private Idaho, is in many ways Gus Van Sant's retelling of *The Adventures of Pinocchio*. Keanu Reeves' character, Scott Favor, is a Pinocchio figure who seeks to flee from "respectable" society by entering the "Land of Boobies," which is the country of boys that Pinocchio runs away to which is unencumbered by such niceties as school, books, rules and masters.

The hotel in Boise, run by an unbelievably permissive old woman, functions as the "Land of Boobies" for the truant youth who swing from the rafters unencumbered by the rules of society. Bob, a destitute, beatnik Lord Byron, is like Pinocchio's coachman who takes his stagecoach, filled to the brim with mischievous boys, away from "good" society. The coachman, in both tales, invariably makes the "Land of Boobies" out to be a very glamorous place where boys may lead a life of

unrestrained pleasure without any consequences and rules.

Both Scott Favor and Pinocchio are different however from the mean of the wayward youth with whom they associate. Neither of them wish to remain in their own private "Land of Boobies" for very long lest they be permanently altered by the experience. Scott is in danger of being turned into the "gutter," as Pinocchio is in danger of catching "donkey fever" and turning into a jackass. They both abandon their "own private Idahos" to return to their makers, Pinocchio to Geppetto and Scott Favor to his birth father, the crippled mayor. The move back to one's maker is thus symbolic of the death of a certain part one's self however.

Pinocchio leaves and rejects the coachman, who was to sell him as a donkey to be made into a drum. Just as Scott Favor inevitably rejects his "psychedelic papa," as he calls Bob. *The Adventures of Pinocchio* and *My Own Private Idaho* are both stories in which boys return to their original fathers after having visited the outer fringes of society. Both figures are transformed by their return, Pinocchio into a boy and Scott Favor into a man as he returns on his 21st birthday. To be sure, Gus Van Sant's Geppetto is not as kindly, nor is his coachman as cruel as the figures in Carlo Collodi's *The Adventures of Pinocchio*.

My Own Private Idaho is luxuriously filmed with special attention given to color detail. It gives visually luscious shots of high speed cloud movements juxtaposed with campy cowboy totem poles all the while such songs play as "Home on the Range," by Will Rogers.

The most wildly surreal of Gus Van Sant's cinematic sequences, involves his fantasy world of the little people who live inside of magazine covers. The camera follows a man, in a ten-gallon hat, into an X-rated bookstore and pans the very modest covers of the magazines which are arranged on wooden shelves. We see Scott Favor pictured on the front of *Male Call*, in a cowboy hat and blue jeans, and the first surrealistic shock is felt. Favor them comes alive on the front cover talking with bravado about selling his body.

Favor's antics on the cover prompt all the other coverstars to come alive as well and to speak their minds, twisting and turning around to look at one

another on the shelves. One can only compare the weird cinematic technique of this scene with the opening sequence of *The Brady Bunch*, in which Marsha, Greg and the whole bunch look round at one another form inside their little blue cubes, which are stacked one upon the other.

Gus Van Sant gives us quite a wide array of eccentric characters in his film. Hans is an ex-performance artist from Germany, whose only aim in life seems to be driving round Boise, in a canary yellow Mercedes Benz, picking up people off the street. Scott Favor has a narcoleptic friend, played dizzily by River Phoenix, who falls asleep instantly whenever stress enters his body. Favor is forever picking up his friend, whose father is an artist living in a trailer, off of highways and floors and tying him to the back of his rebel James Dean style motorcycle to drive him to safety.

The street punks, who Favor runs around with, are often times bizarrely clad in weird assemblages of designer sports wear and Salvation Army handme-downs. Add to this the wheelchair bound mayor, the pleasure loving sector of Idaho's aristocracy, Italian farmgirls and you have one very campy stew.

Gus Van Sant serves up a quirky, kitchy assemblage of life in America's Northwest, which is rivaled only by David Lynch's own surreal portrayals of that region in his television series *Twin Peaks*, and in his film *Blue Velvet*. Gus Van Sant paints a far less dark and supernatural picture however than does David Lynch. Van Sant concerns himself mainly with the campy conglomeration of styles and motifs of the region combined with the traditional tale of father against son. The film takes place in Idaho, Oregon and Rome, Italy. Van Sant's work does resemble Lynch's however in that they both contain the strange feel of Italian and American Western styles intermingled.

The American cowboy is Gus Van Sant's main stylistic motif as a film maker. In an earlier film of his, *Drugstore Cowboy* stars Matt Dillon as a drug addict who rambles around the American West holding up pharmacies. Scott Favor is placed in a motorcycle, a steel horse, and is the spirit of the American cowboy is a symbol of rugged individualism, freedom and often times lawlessness. His next film

will be called *Even Cowgirls Get The Blues*.

Aside from Van Sant's talent of whipping up weird, western cinematic flavors, the heart of the film lies in the emptiness of Scott Favor and his quest for a father. Favor returns to his former life on his 21st birthday when he is to receive a hefty trust fund from his father. The film thus is not exactly a tale of retribution for debauchery. Favor is able to indulge in the seedy, dangerous and exciting parts of life without loss of wealth, health or social position.

One could critically ascertain that Scott Favor is merely a tourist amongst the lost boys, one who never really experiences the hurt of those surrounding him while having more fun out of their "kicks" than the natives do. Favor is hard for adolescents to relate to who do not have million dollar trust funds waiting in the wings to yank them out of unwanted surroundings. However, the fact that Scott Favor actually chooses to among the young "riff raff" of Idaho society makes him out to be more truly of that element than those who are not there by choice. He chooses to sell his body in magazines and on street corners when he could conceivably live comfortably, with much less expense to his well being, elsewhere.

Scott Favor is a curious rebel. His quixotically rebellious lifestyle can be only partially explained by the obvious deeply selfdestructive bent in his nature. Ironically, his very selfdestructiveness is what adds a great deal of charm and romance to the story, he had incredible style an everything he does, destructive or not, is touched by the dashing flair of his elan. His style includes robbing passersby while wearing a monk's robe and intoning his every utterance as if reciting Shakespeare, and some of it is Shakespeare in the film incidentally.

My Own Private Idaho is a quintessential coming of age film in which Scott Favor must choose between continued quixotic rebellion and a modified conformity among respectable society. Now where in the film were the two choices made more apparent to Scott then during the film's funeral sequence. Scott's father is dead when he returns to his former life. Scott has also broken his "true father's" heart causing the street bard to die.

Scott has lost the only two father figures in his life in one fall swoop and both of their funerals are carried out in tandem in the same cemetery.

In the funeral scene, Favor sits placidly, in what looks to be Armani black mourning attire, while his father's solemn funeral ritual unfolds. The ragamuffins, from his former brood, dance atop the wooden crate containing Bob's remains to the sound of an accordion while chanting his name aloud. Scott is clearly not moved by the wild mourning over the death of his "psychedelic papa." The psychological burden of experiencing the funerals of two fathers at once must be terrible, but Scott is mannequin like throughout the whole ordeal, as wooden as Pinocchio.

Favor drops a clue in the film as to his future life when he tells Bob that one day he will change back, and until then Bob is to stay away from him. Scott Favor thus foreshadows a time after the rigors of conformity when his past spirit will spread its wings again.

My Own Private Idaho can serve as a guidepost amidst adolescence much like *Ri Without A Cause* did during the 1950's. Both are films about adolescent boys from good families who turn "bad" and end up delinquent youths consorting with a motley array of characters. Both films detail the quest of the young men to establish a relationship with a father only to be turned back by the latter's ineptitude.

The failure to find support amidst the traditional family structure thus forces, both Jim Stark in *Rebel* and Scott Favor in *Idaho*, to form a surrogate family outside the nuclear structure. In this way, the "rebels" do not so much wish to tear down "traditional family values," but rather seek to find them in their unadulterated and true form.

Scott Favor relishes and plans on his eventual conformity all the while he is running around with his wild street urchins. Favor looks into the camera at one point during the film and says, "I will change when they least expect it, and it will impress them all the more when a f___ up like me turns good, than if I had been good all along." Favor's poignant remark epitomizes the state of the adolescent in flux between conformity and rebellion, as does the whole of *My Own Private Idaho*, it most assuredly is worth seeing.